

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 04676 152146Z
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, SOCI, SREF
SUBJ: 32D UNGA--THIRD COMMITTEE/REPORT OF THE UN HIGH
COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES, ITEM 87

1. DEBATE ON THE REPORT OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR) CONTINUED THE AFTERNOON OF NOV 14
WITH FRANCE, NEW ZEALAND, AUSTRIA, LAOS, US, TUNISIA, IRAN,
AND HONDURAS. NORWAY INTRODUCED A/C.3/32/L.26 AND L.27.
ALL THE SPEAKERS EFFUSIVELY PRAISED THE WORK OF THE UNHCR.
OTHER HIGHLIGHTS AS FOLLOWS.

2. LAOS REP EXPRESSED AT LENGTH HIS GOVERNMENT'S
GRATITUDE FOR THE WORK OF THE UNHCR. HE NOTED THAT AFTER
THE "ATROCIOUS WAR WHICH SAW 700,000 LAOTIANS FORCED TO
MOVE BY INTENSIVE AIR BOMBING," THE UNHCR ORGANIZED
THE RETURN OF THESE REFUGEES TO THEIR OLD VILLAGES OR
TO NEW SETTLEMENTS. DURING THE YEARS 1975-76,
THIS WAS DONE AT THE COST OF \$6 MILLION. DURING 1977,
AN ADDITIONAL \$2 MILLION IN ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN GIVEN TO
LAOS WITH 6,000 HAVING RETURNED TO THEIR HOMES IN THE
FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THE YEAR. REP SINGLED OUT THE NETHERLANDS
FOR ASSUMING \$2 MILLION OF THE ABOVE COSTS AND THANKED
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OTHER FRIENDLY GOVERNMENTS WHICH HAVE CONTRIBUTED
TO THE WORK OF THE UNHCR. HE ALSO REAFFIRMED THE RIGHT OF
VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION OF REFUGEES AND SAID LAOS WOULD
ACCEPT ALL REFUGEES THAT HAD LEFT IT.

3. AUSTRIAN PERMREP SAID THAT THE CONFERENCE ON
TERRITORIAL ASYLUM SHOULD BE RECONVENED "ONLY IF ALL

THE ELEMENTS FOR ITS SUCCESS ARE PRESENT."

4. IRANIAN REP SAID THAT THOSE COUNTRIES THAT HAVE
TRADITIONALLY WELCOMED REFUGEES, INTER ALIA, US, CANADA,
NEW ZEALAND, AND AUSTRALIA, SHOULD BE WILLING TO ADMIT
MORE DISPLACED PERSONS WITHOUT REGARD TO IMMIGRATION QUOTAS.

5. MISSIO IS POUCHING TO D/HA/ORM, DAWSON COPIES OF US
STATEMENT BY EDWARD MEZVINSKY.
LEONRD

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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